



Find out about the new campus apartments!

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Technology: To Fee or Not to Fee

By: Derick Davis

Question: Have you ever complained about inadequate computers, obsolete software, or out of date lab equipment? Have you ever wished you could access MS Office 97 somewhere on campus other than the C. I.T. Lab? Want more access to color printers and desktop scanners? Do you want more access to multimedia computers?

Would residents of Howell and Norton want access to the Internet? Slow down. You're still trying adequate telephone lines

that call out at night time or even the possibility of call waiting!

Do you or your organization want your very own web page or access to Internet from your office in the Student Center? Do you wish the library had more GALLILEO systems that were faster? Do you want a replacement to the antiquated E-mail system on campus to allow for attachments or graphics. Do you want technology access period?

Well, your not alone. The Student Government

Association has been looking at this issue all term. It's not a new matter to Information Technology either. No one disagrees that you should have access to some of these necessities. The library doesn't disagree that the computers are too slow. You will be happy to know that faster replacements are underway, though. Moreover, the faculty seems to think it is necessary to have access to MS Office 97 in the general computer lab in the H Building.

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ATET Mexican Exchange

By: Kelleen D. Williams & Ebony McCants

There is another foreign exchange program in the works at Southern Polytechnic State University. The Apparel/Textile Engineering Department has implemented an exchange program with Mexico. The actual program will go into effect this upcoming summer. As with the other established programs, the period for the Mexican Exchange is six weeks.

There will be between six and twelve students selected for this program

from both countries; however, the Mexican students will not come to school until Fall Semester of 1999. These particular students will be attending the University of Mexico in Torrieon. The Apparel/Textile classes that are going to be offered to the students are still in the negotiating stage. However, Mexican History and Advanced Spanish will definitely be part of the curriculum. It is required that perspective students have at least one year of Spanish. The Apparel/Textile Depart

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NSBE is on the move

By: Kelleen Williams, Elliot Hollis, Ameen Harrison, Ebony McCants

Every year, the National Society of Black Engineers hosts regional conferences for informative sessions and seminars for each of its six regions. Our region, Region Three, is made up of Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida. This year Region Three's conference was held in Lexington, Kentucky on the campus of the University of Kentucky. There were many engaging key note speakers such as Roy S. Johnson, Editor at Large for FORTUNE Magazine and Dr. Julian Earls, Deputy Director of Operations, NASA Lewis Research Center.

While attending this conference, Southern Polytechnic State University

chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers made their presence known. Our chapter participated in every competition held. In the Oratorical Contest, Almez Kerr won first place, our Academic Quiz Bowl team (made up of Monica Senior, Kristie Todd, Rosalind Newton, Hamilton Coleman, and alternate Edward Simpson) came in third place. The step team (made up of Kelleen Williams—Coordinator, Evita Brundidge—Co-Coordinator, Nicole Phillips, Edward Simpson, Kristie Todd, Tawonna Marshall, Jarmon Gray, Monica Senior, Ameen Harrison, and Ebony McCants) competed against the AUC (Atlanta University Center) and FAMU (Florida A & M University) in the Fall Regional Conference Step Show.

To put it mildly, we "represented" as only SPSU

could. We won the competition! Even though there was no monetary prize, we won the respect of our region. If you should see a step team member, please let them know how proud you are of them for all of their good work.

Southern Polytechnic's own Kelleen Williams presented a bid on behalf of the University, so that SPSU could have the privilege of hosting the Fall Regional Conference of 1999. The presentation went very smoothly and thanks go out to Nicole Phillips and Antwon Alsobrook for their hard work on the PowerPoint presentation. The chapter should have the

results before the Christmas break. So, keep your fingers crossed!!

After a hard days work of attending general sessions, workshops, crashing luncheons for graduating seniors, competing in the African American Quiz Bowl, and cheering on

contest participants, we attended the banquet, A FIRST CLASS AFFAIR. The ladies were dressed in their formal gowns and high heeled shoes. The gentleman were buttoned up in their business suits and polished dress shoes. Time at the banquet was spent catching up with friends throughout the conference



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SNAPS

SEMESTERS SUCK!

WE NEED MORE PHONELINES IN THE DORMS!

DOES ANYONE IN HOUSING KNOW WHAT CALL-WAITING IS?

ATLANTA TRAFFIC BRINGS A NEW MEANING TO THE WORD "RUSH".

WHY IS THERE AN ACCIDENT IN COBB COUNTY EVERY MORNING!

WE NEED MORE WOMEN AT THIS SCHOOL!

DO WE REALLY NEED THAT TRAFFIC LIGHT ON CAMPUS?

IF PIZZA HUT IS REALLY PIZZA HUT WHY DO THEY ONLY HAVE PERSONAL PAN?

WHY DOES THE FOOD COURT CALL IT A HOT BAR WHEN THERE IS ONLY ONE SELECTION?

Sting: The Return!

By: LeVar Gilford

Now you've probably been wondering, "Just what happened to the best school newspaper I've ever read?" Well fear not fellow students, The Sting has returned.

This semester has had its trials and tribulations that have affected all students in varying ways. Unfortunately for the Editor, Corey Stanford, this semester has been extremely rough. He had two deaths in his family, rendering him unable to fulfill his duties as the editor and hence crippling the production of The Sting.

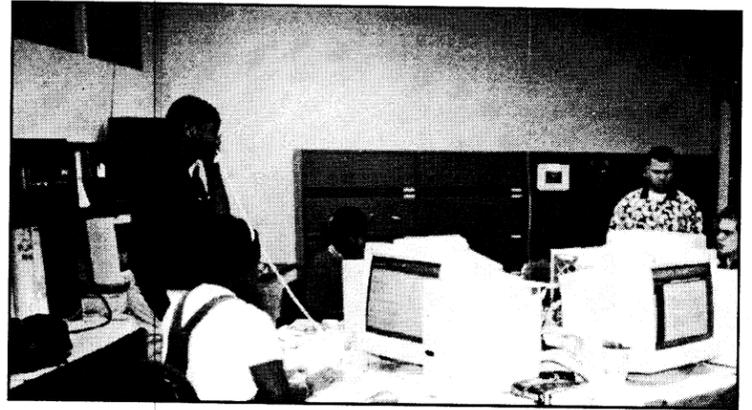
As the semester now comes to a close, and many students begin questioning the absence of the school newspaper, members of the Student Government Association stepped into a collaborative effort with existing

members of The Sting to bring you this issue. With this issue, as you will read later, is a little different content than you're used to. Instead of the usual paper, the writers have decided to make the newspaper a little more "spicy" or even in some cases controversial. That is what it takes to make a fully student-run newspaper that gains the interest of all students and makes everyone want to pick up a copy. Included in this issue will be your usual articles about what's happening around campus, organization articles, and your sports. In order to try to appease the students, we wanted to add something else that is just a little different. These sections include the Poetry Page, Huh, the Vent, and The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of SPSU.

We hope that you enjoy this issue of The Sting, as you have

enjoyed previous issues. Different individuals with varying ways of thinking created the stories and columns, but to keep these issues flowing smoothly, we need your help. The Sting needs more writers for just one column or many columns. To truly make a newspaper for the students, we need the students input. Come out and help support your school by way of its publication. Committed and

dependable people are needed for their wit and their talent. So, come down to The Sting office and become a staff member. It has more benefits than you know!



Southern Polytechnic in 60 seconds!

The SACS results are in and SPSU has full accreditation!
The C.I.T. Lab may be have longer hours in the spring. Yeah!!

Welcome, Dr. Christopher Lee- new Director of Human Resources

Beware the BUDGET CUTS!! Low enrollment causes cuts in SPSU's budget.

Good news—student services will not be directly affected by budget cuts.

We now have a working University Bus. It is available for use by Student Organizations from Athletics.

University Planning Committee is exploring possible new degree programs!

Organizations Beware—new requirements for budget submissions are in effect



ECET Telecommunications Degree is a HUGE success!

Congratulations Karl Staber—Director of Athletics and Recreational Sports

Mike Helfer is no longer "interim" basketball coach, he is now Head Basketball Coach of the SPSU Runnin' Hornets

Movin' On Up to the Apartment Side!

By: Derick Davis

Believe it or not, there are finally here! Southern Polytechnic State University has premiered the first privately funded and operated university apartments on any university campus in the University System of Georgia—University Commons.

One semester later, the apartments are a safe haven for students wishing to upgrade their living conditions for personal privacy, cooking and washing conveniences, more space, and, of course, cleaner living conditions over the traditional residence halls on campus.

Models come completely furnished in either two or four bedroom floor plans. At \$345.00 per month, the two bedroom floor plan offers a private bathroom for each resident with a shared living room and kitchen equipped with a garbage disposal, dishwasher, full-sized washer and dryer, an oven, and a stove. At \$295.00 per month, the four bedroom has two bathrooms with a larger

kitchen and living room than the two bedroom floor plan.

For added safety and conveniences, the units also offer computer Ethernet connections in each bedroom along with an emergency panic button in the living room and each bedroom. Each bedroom



is equipped with a private telephone line and full size closets and mirrors.

Overall, residents are very pleased with the apartments despite some concern about how rapidly the apartments were constructed. Jokingly, one resident stated, "I wonder if these are going to sink like Georgia State's." The living rooms have provided a social atmosphere that wasn't available in the residence halls except in the limited study lounges.

Monica Senior, a former resident of Howell Hall who moved to a two bedroom unit, learning of the new policy that resident will no longer be allowed to stay in the halls during the Christmas interim responded, "There is a God!" She moved out just in time.

Unlike the students in the residence halls, University Commons residents do not have to move out during breaks in between semesters. A real convenience for many students international, out-of-state, and even local.

During a recent heat wave in December, residents could individually control their thermostats and use their air conditioning while student of the residence halls endured the temperature in sweat. Laughing at the students, one University Commons resident made jokes about the students standing outside in the cold while a false fire alarm was investigated in Howell Hall once,

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Cyber Cafe

Want Some Coffee With That?

By: Derick Davis

The Cyber Café has proved to be a huge success with students. During the last academic year, the Student Government Association approved \$10,000 from the Student Development Fund to purchase the computers, the rewiring and hook-up, furniture, and installation. The Cyber Café, located in the lower level of the Student Center beneath the large stairwell, was intended to be a casual and relaxing place for students to browse the Internet, to check their email, and play chess on Yahoo!.

From the occasional onlooker, the computers are continuously in use until users are forced to leave at the end of the Student Center business hours. In fact, the systems are in use so much that students are beginning to complain that they have never had the opportunity to use them. These complaints have been

heard by SGA and the Student Activities office; both are considering expanding the Cyber Café for next year.

Concerns regarding the Cyber Café included how well the students would handle the equipment. Which computer would be the first victim to a Coca-Cola spill or sticky keyboard from misusing ketchup? Would any of the systems be stolen from the bottom level of the Student Center and prevent any future additions the successful café? Fortunately, none



of these concerns have proven to be true. The computers are clean, the monitors are still here, and they actually work. So, it sounds like the Cyber Café here to stay! There's only one lingering problem: Where's the JAVA? What do you say Barnes and Noble?



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Letters to the Editor. The STING welcomes letters on any topic. Letters should be typed or neatly printed, double-spaced and should not exceed three hundred words. Letters must include a name. Unsigned letters will not be printed. The STING reserves the right to edit letters for style, content or size. All letters are run on a space-available basis. Please send all letters to The STING, Southern Polytechnic State University, 1100 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta, GA 30060-2896, or e-mail cstanfor@spsu.edu, or drop them off at The STING office, Room 252 in the Joe Mack Wilson Student Center. All letters must be in before the deadline printed below.

Organization Articles. Articles must be submitted by the deadline printed below and typed on a 3.5 inch PC computer disc. Please limit articles to two hundred words. All such articles are subject to editing for style or content, and are run on a space-available basis.

Price. The STING offers to every student, faculty, staff member, alumni, and official visitor of Southern Polytechnic State University complimentary copies of each issue numbering up to 0.25% of the print run for the respective issue.

Joining The STING. Any student paying activity fees is eligible to join The STING. We prefer creative students who have passed English 110. Contact the Editor at (770) 528-7310 or stop by the office to pick-up an application.

Technology Fee

Continued From Page 1

Unfortunately, that's where the agreements stop. The remaining question is who should fund this expensive technology? Should Information Technology budget be expanded and probably not cut to provide for some of these? Should the students be slapped with a technology fee? No one seems to have a clear cut answer on this matter or agree on options.

Members of SGA believe that technology is the sole responsibility of the university to provide while technology over and beyond may not be the responsibility of the university. Moreover, some members have stated that if implemented, students should have a majority say so as to how it is spent. A committee, perhaps, may be the best solution to allocating these student funds. But approving a fee and writing a free check, "Pay to the Order of Southern Polytechnic State University," is more than likely

out of the question.

Similar to the Georgia Lottery, SGA has strong concerns about approving a technology fee to supplement rather than compliment students education at Southern Polytechnic. Proceeds from the lottery cannot be used to pay for teacher salaries, desks, books, or operating expenses. It's an important safeguard to prevent abuse of the funds. They can, however, be used to pay for special projects and advanced computers or technology. Microsoft Office 97 hardly qualifies as advanced technology. Rather it is a general purpose software application that is used by everyone. Arguably, color printers, scanners, and Internet access may qualify as advanced technology.

Beginning in January, SGA will be asking for student's input in a survey that includes questions regarding technology and the

possibility of a technology fee. SGA asks that all students complete it. Some have envisioned a 24 hour Copy Center that could handle transparencies, fast, color copying, and printing. "I would like ZIP Drives in the general lab," a student wishes. SGA may consider a small technology fee should it be justified and at the request of students. After all, it is your university. You do have a say as to how money is spent especially if it's your money.

Wait a minute. I've got one: "What about installing computers in some of the study rooms of the library for group lab work that have the ability to access all programs on campus from every department that never crashed, was always up-to-date, fast, and could print downstairs on a color laser printer that some library assistants could deliver to my professor on time guaranteed?" Hey, it is Christmas. We all can wish. Or is it just a FedEx/Star Trek dream.

Mexican Exchange

Continued From Page 1

ment has set aside specific funds to subsidize the cost of the program. The registration process will take place on Southern Polytechnic State University's campus. Those students registering for history classes will have the pleasure of being taught by Southern Polytechnic's own, Professor Robert Fischer. Professor Fischer will be accompanying the students on their "cultural adventure."

Family's of the Mexican students who will be attending Southern Polytechnic in the fall will house the students. There has also been talk of the students being housed by the faculty of the University. Transportation is not abundant in this particular area of Mexico, so the students may be riding bikes to school. While divulging in their academic needs, the students will also have an opportunity to work in Apparel/Textile manufacturing facilities. This will be a valuable experience for the students considering

the majority of Apparel/Textile companies are developing offshore sites.

The overall purpose of this program is to give the Apparel/Textile students an opportunity for an international experience. As with many areas of engineering, this experience is becoming a necessity. Most companies are very impressed by students with international experience and knowledge of production. The student's response to the program has been overwhelming. In turn, the department had to establish requirements in order to narrow the selection of candidates.

This program could open many doors for the University as a whole.

Faculty Picks

Dr. Ron Koger
VP Enrollment Management

Dr. Koger joined the SPSU family in the spring of 1997, and since then, he has continued to be a positive presence. He has revamped the Preview Day sessions, and is constantly seeking feedback for any new programs which could possibly help students and prospectives as well as those already enrolled.

From my conversations with students on campus, I have constantly encountered the refrain "nobody wanted to help me So, I went to Dr. Koger." He may not always be able to solve the problem, but you come away with the feeling that he has done all he can. This is a very important factor to students who have enough problems in their everyday lives. Dr. Koger can be seen walking around campus during the day or on

mornings in the cafeteria having breakfast with his co-workers.

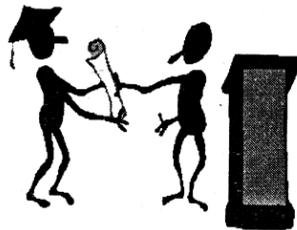
What I find most appealing about this VP is his sense of humor, and his openness to new ideas. He can always be counted on to liven an otherwise boring meeting, or to praise any worthy accomplishment Combined with his sense of duty towards students and his commitment to improving enrollment on this campus, Dr. Koger is an obvious favorite among students. Continue the good work, we appreciate it!



Congratulations Graduating Seniors !!

December 20th is the day!!!!

You have done it. The all-nighters are almost done. You are about to leave these walls. Good Job!



The P.E. & The E.I.T.

By: Nicole Phillips

Engineering Technology!!! In many states this degree has acquired much debate. The debate is whether state requirements to take Fundamental Exam (F.E.) and the Professional Engineering (PE) Exam educational requirements should be closer to the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) requirements.

This would possibly exclude engineering technology degree holders from taking the F.E. and PE Exams.

Many states including Florida and Kentucky say "NO" to engineering technology degree who want to sit for the exam (for a complete list check www.NCEES.org). Other states engineering and land surveyors boards are in the process changing or have changed their laws through legislation.

Alabama, a state that has some universities and college that offer the engineering technology degree, has just changed their laws to exclude holders of the engineering technology degree, but present degree holders and seekers

have a grandfather clause under the legislation. The requirements for licensure as a professional engineer in Georgia from an engineering technology institution are as follows:

1. Has obtained certification by the Board as an Engineer-in-Training having graduated from ... an approved engineering, engineering technology, or related science curriculum of not less than four years; and
2. Has acquired not less than seven years of acceptable engineering experience; and
3. Has made an application to Applied Measurement Professional, Inc. (AMP) and submitted the requisite fee of \$105.00 to AMP...; and
4. Has passed the written examination in the principles and practice of engineering (professional engineering examination).

Now the Georgia Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors is in the process of passing legislation that could affect your future and finances as a engineering technology degree seeker. In the last two sessions the board

has unsuccessfully passed legislation to bring educational requirements "more in concert to with ... the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)" according to the November edition of Georgia Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Newsletter. So far the unsuccessfully passed legislation has made an exception for engineering technology, but what if the next proposal excludes engineering technology meaning Southern Polytechnic State University students -YOU!!

Inability to become an Engineering-In-Training (EIT) or receive a PE license can affect future promotion, employment and finances. Many engineering companies and firms require some form of certification along with experience before an engineer is promoted and given a raise in salary, and many of the high salary job openings require the same. Engineers that go after state jobs or work for a company that seeks state and government contacted work would be largely affected by any change in legislation prohibiting them from FE/PE Exams. Also if an engineer

want to open his or her own consulting company, then he or she would be unavailable to because an unlicensed engineer can approved and certify drawings and sketches. Lastly there is a dissent difference in the salaries of EIT/PE's in relation to engineers that are not certified as report by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE).

Professor Donald D. Horton, Associate Professor in MET Department, says not to worry legislation probably will not exclude Southern Polytechnic graduates from taking the FE/PE exam, but be aware any development with this issue because they could directly or indirectly affect one's future. Southern Polytechnic State University has Legislator Beverly Golden on our side in the fight to secure the interest of the students, but students need to make sure the representatives of their county and state hear their voices. If you want to obtain more information on this subject then contact the following websites:

www.NSPE.org
www.GSPE.com
www.NCEES.org
www.sos.state.ga.us

Movin' Up

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 twice, or even three or more times.

Despite the conveniences, University Commons residents also have some gripes of their own. To begin, utilities are not free. On average the power bill for the four bedroom is approximately \$75.00 per month minus the mandatory \$150.00 deposit by Marietta Power. The water bill was a whopping \$25.00 per month for a four bedroom unit and half that for the two bedroom unit. When asked about the cost of water, Lynn Johnson, the new complex manager, informed residents that the costs also includes sewage treatment and that she would look into the concern that there is no individual meter per apartment for water to justify each units usage.

Inspections in the apartments, although not new to previous dorms residents, occurs once a month in the apartments to ensure health and safety throughout. This is to prevent unnecessary abuse of the apartments for new residents. Community Assistants who conduct the inspections say it's very necessary because you wouldn't believe what they have found—pets and unsanitary trash.

Contrary to earlier beliefs, residents thought that cable would be provided for free along with Internet access through the Ethernet connections which are still not working. Plans are underway to get the connections working, but it is still uncertain whether it will include the much anticipated and desired Internet access. Committing on the Internet access, a 'techno' resident complains, "... what good is the connection without it? Who needs a high speed connection for registration or email. What a waste of money!"

Regardless of the concerns, the apartments seem to provide what the students want—privacy, space, and modern conveniences. Although not absolutely full, University Commons have had no problem with leasing the apartments. Unofficially, rumor has it that a Phase II plan may be underway for next year with more of the much needed apartments with the possibility of one bedroom models. Who wants to move again to a one bedroom unit?

Community and Southern Polytechnic join KFC in Thanksgiving Event For Cobb Families

By: Elliot Hollis

On November 26, 1998, between the hours of 11am and 2pm, Kentucky Fried Chicken along with Southern Polytechnic State University hosted their second annual Thanksgiving Day celebration at the Big Chicken in Marietta, Georgia. KFC provided and delivered food to low-income needy families identified by Cobb County Family and Children's Services, to individuals in the HIV center, and to the Cobb County Emergency Shelter. Fred Hamberg, KFC Area Executive, says this program was instituted last year as an outreach of goodwill in the KFC community for which he

hoped other restaurants in the area would join.

KFC gained volunteers from church groups, volunteer organizations and from right here at Southern Polytechnic State University. Some of them included Mt. Zion Baptist Church, families from the community, Dr. Lisa Rossbacher, the President of SPSU, her mother and sister-in-law, Mrs. Lavern Smith, the Cooperative Education Specialist, and students from the National Society of Black Engineers. Volunteers were given duties ranging from preparing and serving meals to greeting and transporting families.

The meals that were provided consisted of 2-pc chicken dinners filled with

a wing and thigh or a leg and breast, macaroni, mashed potatoes, a biscuit, coleslaw, a pie, and a Pepsi. The meal tickets used to identify the families and individuals for which these meals were prepared by NSBE and distributed with the help of Cobb County's Family and Children's Services.

This was, indeed, a very successful event for which, I hope, will be a



program embraced by many more organizations and restaurants in the future.

Southern Polytechnical State University Aerial Robotics Team calls for *working* team members!

This is an excellent opportunity to learn! No experience is necessary. Companies visiting the last competition were going from team to team looking for employees! We expect the freshmen members to learn about the project and be in a position to carry the project in future competitions. As with any research project we are all learning as we go. All of our experts are "green". As an example, many of our freshmen members are providing valuable input to the team software development solutions.

All applicants must have the time to spend three to five hours per week for the completion of their work. Applicants should work well with teams or be willing to improve their teamwork skills. Self starters and results oriented members are welcome. There is no compensation for membership on the team, except for the implied team work experience, which should be valuable to future potential employers. Some departments on campus will accept formal papers for class credits based on your participation and experience with the Aerial Robotics Team. All

positions may be filled with more than one member, and members may be assigned to more than one area, if agreeable to all parties.

If you have interest in any of these positions please contact us through e-mail: cpergantis@mindspring.com

The following is a listing of the jobs available on the Aerial Robotics Team:

Pilot/Mechanic responsibilities:

- include the training of staff for the manual control of the helicopter using the remote radio controller
- include the maintenance and tuning of the helicopter
- include travel with the team for the competition
- include standby, emergency control of the helicopter during the competition

Helicopter/Mechanical Designer responsibilities

- include the initial design of, the completion of prototypes, and the final implementation of associated helicopter parts and the integration of those parts
- include drawings, approvals and the building of helicopter associated parts and whole

Rover/Mechanical Designer responsibilities

- include the initial design of, the completion of prototypes, and the final implementation of associated rover parts and the integration of those parts
- include drawings, approvals and the building of rover associated parts and whole

Electrical/Electronics Designer responsibilities

- include the initial design of, the completion of prototypes, and the final implementation of associated electronics parts and the integration of those parts
- include drawings, approvals and the building of electronic associated parts and whole

- include participation on the rover and the helicopter, (parts and software should be modular)

Administrative responsibilities

- include maintenance of the budget
- interface to other school organizations
- create and incorporate a technical transition process

Web Page Designer /

Promotional responsibilities

- include the design and maintenance of the team web page
- include the timely posting of the ten page paper required for the competition
- include the design and production of the team T-shirt

Industrial Designer /

Promotional responsibilities

- include input to the overall design and image of the project

- design including logos, body design of the rover and helicopter
- include the design and production of the team T-shirt

Embedded Systems

Designer / Development

- responsibilities
- include real-time application development - interface to gps ahrs sonar and other sensory subsystems
- include com port and tcpip communications

Artificial Intelligence /

Vision Recognition / Development responsibilities

- include visual recognition application development
- include com port and tcpip communications

If you have interest in any of these positions please contact us through e-mail:

cpergantis@mindspring.com

ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INC.

"The Sisters of the Dove" are finally present on the campus of Southern Polytechnic State University. We, the ladies of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated are diligently working to establish a chapter on this campus.

For those individuals who have no idea of whom or what we are, let me take a brief moment to introduce ourselves. At present, there are three members of the organization: Kelleen D. Williams, Ebony L. McCants, and Michelle Mason. In order to get a chapter established on campus, we need five motivated ladies. We will be conducting an intake process during the spring semester. Chartering on campus is our main goal for the 1998-1999 school term. Despite our lack of numbers, we have remained active both on and off campus. We are a continuous support system for the other sororities and organizations on campus. As with other

organizations, community service is also an important activity for us.

So, be on the look out for those women who stand for sisterly love, scholarship, service, and finer womanhood. Those beautiful women who are the "Sisters of the Dove."



Left to right: Kelleen D. Williams, Ebony L. McCants, and Michelle W. Mason

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a private non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide service and programs to promote human welfare. The founders envisioned an organization of college women pledged to serious endeavor and community service. These youthful students demonstrated a vital concern for social welfare, academic excellence, and cultural enrichment and de-emphasized the social sides of sorority life. A sisterhood of more than 200,000 predominantly black college educated women, the sorority currently has over 850 chapters located in the United States, Japan, Germany, the Virgin Islands, Bermuda, Haiti, Liberia, the Bahamas, England and the Republic of Korea. The major programs of the sorority are based upon the organization's five point programmatic thrust: economic development, educational development, international awareness and involvement, political awareness and involvement, physical and mental health.

Currently the Pi Nu

Chapter located here on SPSU's campus has only one member. Though the count is low, Pi Nu is still continuing to strive towards sisterhood, scholarship, and service.

We are having a shoe drive called SOLE to SOUL, which is an ongoing project here at SPSU where shoes are donated to the various deposit boxes, collected, cleaned, and then shipped to Africa. We will also be participating in "The Festival of Trees" this December. In our upcoming months we have other events planned, here are a few highlights:

- January 11-15 Founder's Week

- March-Delta & Zeta Ball or Party

There will be more information posted on flyers around the school. So, stay tuned. Also, if anyone has questions or interests in Delta Sigma

Theta Sorority, Inc., please feel free to contact Evita Brundidge at 678-355-9344.

We would also like to officially welcome our president Dr. Rossbacher to Southern Polytechnic State University.



Evita Brundidge, chapter president

NSBE 3.0 Crew

By Kristie Todd

Most students have heard about the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). How the organization wants "to increase the number of culturally responsible black engineers to excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community". To reach and accomplish the mission, NSBE focuses on what the organization can do to help students and the surrounding community. There are several fundraisers and community service projects that are done each year, but succeeding academically has to be an everyday process and a number one priority. Therefore, I introduce to you an organization within NSBE that does just that, the NSBE 3.0 Crew.

The 3.0 Crew helps students network with others in their majors either at the NSBE meetings or in their classes. Most people think that you have to have a 3.0 GPA to participate; however this is not the case. The purpose of the

3.0 Crew is to have the members involve obtain and maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher and to improve study skills. The only requirement needed is that you become a member of NSBE. Not only do we focus on academics, but we also participate in community service projects, fundraisers, and mentoring programs. Now the 3.0 Crew isn't just about academics all day long, we also have fun by organizing social functions in the process. So if you are interested, you can contact Tawonna Marshall, Membership for a NSBE application at tmarshall@spsu.edu or Kristie Todd 3.0 Crew Coordinator at ktodd2@spsu.edu for further information. The 3.0 Crew meetings will be held every other Tuesday at noon and the NSBE meetings ever Thursday, at noon. I encourage you to fill out an application and become a member of NSBE because you never know the unlimited opportunities you could be missing. We welcome everyone!!!

INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS

This article will provide you with a greater insight to the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE).

HISTORY

Founded in 1948, the IIE is the only international, non-profit, professional society dedicated to advancing the technical and managerial excellence of industrial engineers.

STUDENT CHAPTER

Did you know that there is an IIE Student Chapter right here on campus? The Student Chapter meets every other Tuesday from 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM. The IIE meetings cover topics that are of interest to most of the Industrial Engineering Technology (IET) students. Resume workshops, study sessions, listening to Speakers, sponsor a family program, and attending conferences are just some of the activities that the IIE members are encouraged to participate in. Currently, there are twenty registered IIE members. However, this group is very involved and is

working towards making the organization grow.

CHAPTER BENEFITS

Just a few hours a month with your Student Chapter will result in many benefits, both professionally and personally. The following is just a few benefits that the IIE member will enjoy:

- Network with your peers and build a solid network that will be useful for future job searches.
- Social activities offer fun and friendship with fellow industrial engineers.
- Student events allow you to share your knowledge and experience with future industrial engineers.
- Benefit from continuing education through chapter meetings, plant tours, and chapter conferences.

UPCOMING EVENTS

At the beginning of next semester, IIE will have a raffle. This raffle is an attempt to fund-raise in order to help subsidize the cost for attending the Miami Conference in February. Speaking of which, the Miami Conference will be held on Feb. 18 - Feb 21.

If you have any questions

or are interested in joining please visit the IET office.

If you want more information about IIE visit the homepage at <http://www.iienet.org>

Sigma Nu

With the season coming, Sigma Nu is planning some great events. We are planning some open parties and hope to see everyone there! Keep your eyes open for flyers that will tell the time and location of these events. One reminder, our anniversary party and winter retreat are coming up. So, make sure you mark your calendars.

Our pledges are doing great and are having a good time too. Football season is keeping us all busy and we are doing our best to make sure the competition knows what Sigma Nu is about. If you love athletics and great parties, you might want to stop by one of our parties coming up soon. There is no better way to meet people and have a good time too.

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

As we approach the new year the men of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Alpha Sigma Chapter, plan to make new strides on the campus of Southern Polytechnic. During the Summer Quarter of 1998, Phi Beta Sigma was officially recognized as an organization of campus. Members at the school include Bro. LeVar Gilford, Bro. Al Franklin, Bro. Xenphon Cater, Bro. Brandon McGirt, Bro. Gary Kirk, and Bro. Jamie ????

Recently, the brothers completed a volunteer service in conjunction with the United Way and Travelers Aid, to provide Thanksgiving Dinner to two single mothers in the Metro Atlanta Area. The recipients gave praise to the brothers for their worthy and noble act. The chapter is also planning on participating with Bro. Hosea

Williams in his efforts to feed the hungry at Christmas time.

On the upcoming agenda for the chapter are the Founders Day Breakfast and Sigma Week Step Show at West Georgia, in January. And in February, another Step Show at Kennesaw St. Univ.

The men of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. constantly remain active in the University and the community to provide ourselves with knowledge of what is going on around us in everyday life. Although we enjoy the fun of Step Shows and parties, our main focus is to be a strong voice in the community through our leadership and our volunteer efforts. For more information on Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. feel free to contact LeVar Gilford at (770) 499-2592 or at levargilford@hotmail.com.

WGHR Goes to New York!

By: David E. Stone

Once a year college radio stations around the U.S. gather in New York for the annual College Music Journal convention. This four day conference/extravaganza consists of four days of discussion panels related to college radio and four nights filled with special performances. Performers at this year's CMJ conference included: Mix Master Mike, Moby, DJ Shadow, Buffalo Daughter, Morphine, Drown, and Money Mark. This event provides WGHR and other stations with the opportunity to connect with the rest of the college radio community. Station Members attending the conference were myself, Kevin Byrd, Paul Burin, Eric Goodman, and Matt Thomas.

Our trip began on Thursday November 5th with an early flight into LaGuardia Airport. From there we took a bus to our Howard Johnson hotel located a few blocks away from the conference headquarters at the Millenium, Times Square. We headed quickly to the confer-

ence registration and immediately entered the exhibition hall. Upon arriving we received our goodie bags filled with music from artists trying to be heard. Live DJs were spinning the latest hip music for all to hear. Every exhibitor had free items to lure the decision makers for college stations. The majority of exhibitors provided information about Internet broadcasting to which we were immediately drawn. Everyone was willing to give away encoders and servers if you were willing to give them rights to your musical content.

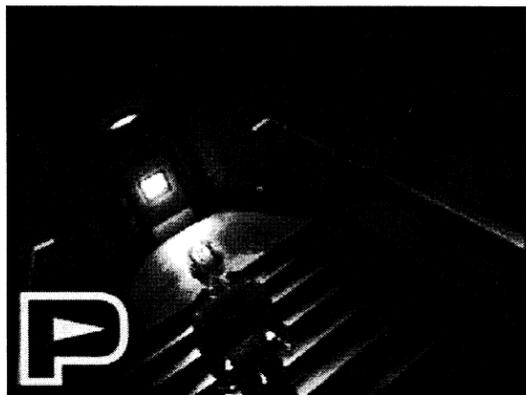
Utilizing the epic 100+ page conference guidebook we headed down to the discussion panels located on the lower floors of the hotel. Panels attended by staff this year included: *College Stations and the Community*, *The State of College Radio*, *Industrial vs. Electronica*, *The State of Jazz Music*, *How do I get my music Played on college radio* and a few discussions about Internet Broadcast. My personal highlight of the panel discussions was the producer panel hosted by John Norris of MTV news and featured Mario Calderato(Beastie Boys), The

Automator(Wu Tang Clan), Prince Paul(Del La Soul), and the producer of Ciba Mato. The panels provided us with a great deal of information about how the music industry really works and we finally met all the people we have been talking to over the years. Many members of the audience were famous musicians. The lead singer of Everclear was attending a few of the panels.

The most important aspect of the trip was the opportunity to see how other stations manage to flourish in their communities. Many stations at the conference had even less of a broadcast range than our station. Returning from the conference we all felt a renewed sense of purpose and excitement about the organization of which we are a part. We hope to apply the knowledge gained from the experience and build an even better radio station.

[parasite eve]

If there is anyone who has actually bothered to read all my columns so far, you may begin to notice a trend. I mainly review Playstation games, and this column will mark my third Square RPG. Square is the (magnificent) company that makes the **Final Fantasy** series and its spin-offs, as well as the **SaGa** (not a TyPo) series. At the moment, they are working on **Final Fantasy VIII** (excuse me, I



have to clean some drool off the keyboard... stupid Pavlovian response).

Parasite Eve, Square's latest effort to hit American shores, is the first released under a distribution partnership with the big EA (Electronic Arts, the largest publisher of video games in this country). It will be followed by **Xenogears**, a controversial mecha RPG with religious overtones; **Bushido Blade 2**, sequel to the original realistic weapon dueling simulation; and **Brave Fencer Musashi(den)**, which features a famous Japanese hero in a fantasy world; in November. Other games like **SaGa Frontier 2** and **Ehrgeiz**, a fighter which includes several **Final Fantasy VII** characters, are likely to follow.

But enough about Square, this article is supposed to be about **Parasite Eve** (or [parasite eve], as is written on the box), and it is certainly not about **ANTZ** (a great movie with plenty of Woody Allen humor). By the way, that's 215 words without a shred of review.

Parasite Eve is quite simply breathtaking. Take three parts **Final Fantasy VII** and one part **Resident Evil**, stir in a bit of **Jurassic Park** and **The Andromeda Strain**, and sprinkle a little **The Stand** on top. Garnish with a little **Chrono Trigger**. Serves one.

Parasite Eve's best quality may well be the fact that it is one of most original RPGs in a long time. It's advertised as a cinematic RPG, and it definitely is, but there is much more beneath the game's surface. The fascinating story, detailed graphics, awesome battle system, and gorgeous video all combine to make PE stand out.

You play Aya Brea, a sexy NYPD rookie detective, as she hunts down Eve, a malicious entity composed of rebellious cellular mitochondria. Eve possesses a control over mitochondria that allows her to mutate nonsentient life into freakish zombies and cook anyone within a few hundred feet. In Aya's opinion, this is a BAD thing. Fortunately, Aya also gains limited control over her mitochondria as the game progresses, making her immune to Eve's powers and granting her a few of her own (funny how the abilities she learns are also spells in **Final Fantasy**).

The story (based on a best-selling Japanese novel by Hideaki Sena and later made into a movie and a comic) about a superhuman cop and her friends (read targets) hunting an evil created by science on a small island is very much like a Crichton story. The bizarre concept and occasionally silly science are a little more like one of Stephen King's quirkier ideas. The story is carried along by lengthy (text) dialogue sequences and flashy computer generated video.

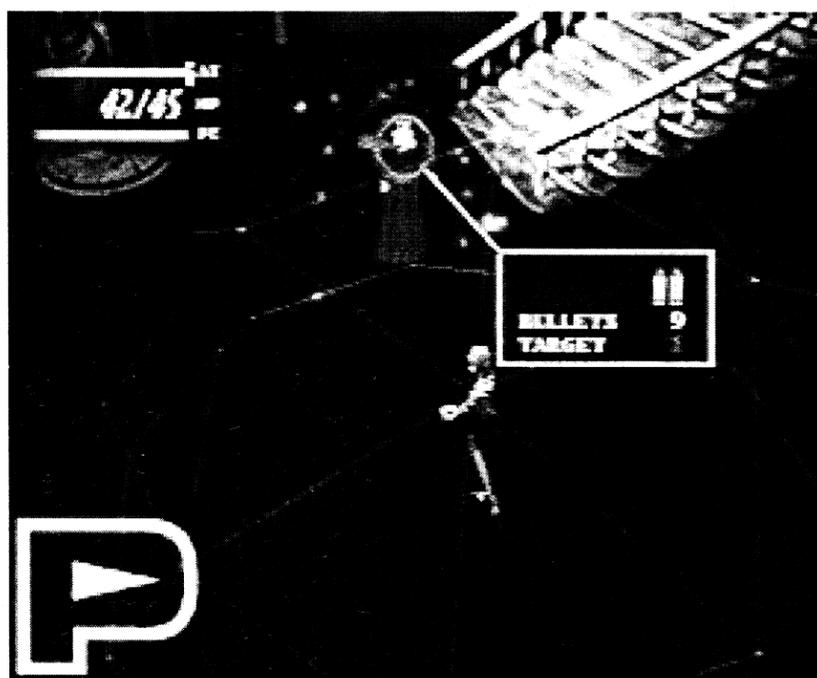
The gameplay is great. Aya is normally a little stiff to control with a standard pad, but the control improves once you enter a fight, and the game is compatible with analog controllers. In battle, Aya dodges enemy attacks while her AT bar (Active Time, like in **Final Fantasy**) fills. When the bar is all blue, you can press a button to shoot or open up a menu. The fighting involves a great

deal of strategy because you are vulnerable while you attack and different guns may take longer to shoot or have special enhancements that affect the fight.

Because the game follows a story so closely, it takes only a short time to beat. About twelve to fifteen hours should be enough for your first play. After the credits roll, however, you are encouraged to play what is called the EX game. It's the same game over again, but the enemies are stronger and you get to keep your items from the first game. In addition, you may now visit the Chrysler building, which has become a full size classic dungeon. As large as the entire rest of the game, and far more difficult towards the end, the Chrysler building features 77 floors of winding mazes,

powerful items, no saves, few exits, and bosses on every tenth floor. Upon defeating the insanely difficult new final boss (which I am currently attempting to do) you are treated to an all new ending sequence.

Engaging and fun, [parasite eve] is more than just a string of



fancy movies on a CD. While it is initially a little short and easy, the EX game makes up for that. You play the game once for story and once for the challenge of the Chrysler building. If you like dark science-fiction or want an interesting variant on role-playing I highly recommend it.

- Is it fun? Yes!
- Features: Aya and lots of guns (and ugly mutants too).
- Suggested for: Horror/Sci-fi fans.
- Play length: 12hrs first play 28+ total.
- Developer: Square Soft
- Next Issue: **Tenchu**, **Tales of Destiny**, or whatever I buy next.
- Written listening to **Final Fantasy 1987-1994** and **Final Fantasy Pray** soundtracks.

- Frank Lopez

Before we were interrupted...

By Dave Eskridge

In our last issue of *The Sting*, there was a large article on **Ghost in the Shell**. One of the segments covered the soundtrack. Due to an error on our part the segment was cut off. We apologize for that. It also happened to cut off in the middle of the name of a musical group; **The Dead Can Dance**. We are very sincerely sorry that this occurred. Here now is the complete section of that article.

The Soundtrack

I didn't mention the soundtrack in the movie section of this article because I felt it deserved to be looked at on its own. It does play an important role in setting the mood for the movie, but it really is good enough to stand-alone.

The first thing you hear when you start the CD is a group chanting in Yamato, a precursor to Japanese. It is simply stunning. Tribal drumming backs the mournful chorus — which sounds almost Middle

Eastern—. This sad mystic chant will be repeated throughout the disc. They culminate with a solo by one of the singers. It puts me in mind of something you might hear from **The Dead Can Dance**.

In-between the movements of the choral work are very digital pieces of new age music. Again we see influence from **Bladerunner**. These new age pieces have a mysterious sound, and can be very soothing.

After ten tracks of the choral and new age music, there is a bonus piece of pop music in Chinese. It's

rather nice once you get used to it, but after the mournful and mysterious brunt of the album it is a bit jarring.

To the best of my knowledge the soundtrack has never been released in the U.S. If you wish to get it, you'll have to dig it out of specialty stores or web-sites. The easiest to find and cheapest to buy is the Son May Records release.

A little bit of evil

By Dave Eskridge

h, The Devil, that cute little personification of evil. He's dark, he's mean, and he's... entertainment. That being said, and out of my system, I have decided to take a look at four movies involving the big D and some of his cohorts.

First let's look at **Fallen**.

Story: This is the classic cop gets framed and has to get the killer on his own thriller. It has a twist though; the killer our hero has to get is a demon named Azazel. The demon moves from body to body by touch.

Tone-genre: Dark thriller with mystic overtones.

Review: The worst of the four in this article, it still isn't half bad. It is a good thriller, but lacks strength in its mysticism. It needed more of a fantastic element.

Second let's look at **The Devil's Advocate**.

Story: This is an old style morals play. The Devil tries to tempt a young lawyer, and we watch as the young lawyer falls farther and farther until he learns to fight back.

Tone-genre: Dark, modern, fantasy in a classical format.

Review: This one is good. It is a modern rendition of a very old idea; a moral tale done with a technological flare. For once, Keanu Reeves can actually play the part, so his ability to destroy the writing in a movie is not as evident.

Third we get into one of my favorites, **The Prophecy**.

Story: This doesn't concern the Devil in any great degree. It deals with a second war in heaven. The Archangel Gabriel, jealous of God's attention to man, starts a second war. The war has remained stalemated for centuries. Now Gabriel has come to earth to take the soul of a genius-madman

to help lead his armies to victory. The angels still fighting for God send the angel Simon to keep the soul out of Gabriel's hands.

Tone-genre: Dark, modern, action, fantasy.

Review: The movie is a sort of a mystic terminator. It has much the same style, except without all the plot twists that come from time travel. The subtlety of the magic in the film makes for an attractive dark feeling. It has a very in-depth mythos, that can be very engrossing.

Finally there is the sequel **Prophecy II**.

Story: Gabriel returns to earth to stop God's angles from creating a neflam, a half-human half-angel child, who is prophesied to aid them in the war.

Tone-genre: Dark, modern, action, fantasy.

Review: This is great. It's got a lot of magic, action, and a very rich world. Top-notch work for horror and fantasy fans.

Movie Reviews: Enemy of the State

Written by David Marconi and
Directed by Tony Scott

Enemy of the State is an action thriller which takes a very creative approach to how modern technology will allow the government to invade the American people's privacy with state-of-the-art surveillance equipment. Robert Clayton Dean (Will Smith) is a young and talented labor lawyer who mistakenly becomes a target for the National Security Agency (NSA).

While Dean is shopping for lingerie for his lovely wife Carla (Regina King), a college buddy, Kevin Smith (Jason Lee) slips a disk into his shopping bag. Little did Dean know that the disk contained a video of the death of U.S. senator Phil Hammersly (Jason Robards) murdered by government agents under orders of the head of the NSA, John Voight (Thomas Reynolds).

When the agency discovers that Dean has the evidence, his home is wired with cameras and listening devices, his clothes are

planted with tracking devices, his cellular phone is tapped, his credit is ruined and scandalous stories which cause him to lose his job and shatter his marriage are leaked to the press. The movie has an excellent plot and the long forgotten Rachel Banks (Lisa Bonet) makes a surprise appearance. She portrays Dean's college love and link to an unknown information source. Brill (Gene Hackman) portrays the anonymous information source. Brill is a former NSA operative who went into hiding after a botched operation decades earlier. After viewing this movie, you may be careful about what conversations you have on that cellular phone or take a look around your house to see what agency is watching you. Is the government invading your privacy? For all of the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science majors who want to know what your future job may be like, you should definitely see this movie.

- Ebony L. McCants

New Star Wars

There. I knew that would catch your attention better than anything about comics. Yes, this is an article about comics, but its about **Star Wars** too, so please read on.

I like comics, but I hate costumed superheroes. Since that knocks out the main series from the big three publishers, what's left? Well, there's the vast field of alternative comics. This includes studios like Sirius, known for titles like **Dawn** and **Poison Elves**; Chaos, known almost exclusively for **Lady Death**, a pale and overly endowed denizen of Hell; Viz, the most prolific translator of Japanese manga; and Antarctic Press, the most prolific creator of American manga rip-offs. Dwarfing these is the king of alternative comics: Dark Horse Comics. Dark Horse is best marked by the variety of its selection of titles, which include

movie licenses, alternative heroes, manga translations, and more. Dark Horse is also currently the sole publisher of **Star Wars** comics.

About four or five years ago, just after Bantam began its line of **Star Wars** novels, Dark Horse released Tom Veitch and Cam Kennedy's **Dark Empire**, an appropriately named comic due to its equally dark story and art. **Dark Empire**, which chronicled the return of a cloned Emperor Palpatine, was the first **Star Wars** comic since the Marvel books of the early eighties. Its success led to a rather large line of comics focusing on the adventures of all new characters in the **Star Wars** universe.

The **Star Wars** comics, like most Dark Horse works, run in arcs. Sometimes an arc that is very popular becomes an ongoing series. The three principle **Star Wars** series are **Empire**, **X-wing**, and **Tales of the Jedi**.

Empire includes **Dark Empire**, **Dark Empire II**, **Empire's End**, **Crimson**

Empire, and the forthcoming **Crimson Empire II**. These are probably the darkest of all the stories set in the **Star Wars** universe. The **original Dark Empire** featured Luke Skywalker falling to the Dark Side of the Force and taking up Darth Vader's position at the cloned Emperor's side. **Dark Empire II** and **Empire's End** rehashed the initially cool idea of the first part. **Crimson Empire** follows the sole surviving Imperial Royal Guard on a quest for vengeance. The art changed from the blocky, surrealistic style of the previous work to the highly realistic color-separated form found in high end modern color comics.

Tales of the Jedi takes place in the old days of the Republic. It begins four thousand years before **Star Wars: A New Hope** (the original movie) with **Tales of the Jedi**; it continues that story with **The Freedon Nadd Uprising**, **Dark Lords of the Sith**, and **The Sith War**. The story later jumps back a thousand years in the past to the great clash between the Republic and

the Sith in **Golden Age of the Sith** and **Fall of the Sith Empire**. **Tales of the Jedi** was originated by Tom Veitch and passed on to Kevin J. Anderson, the most dedicated, if not skilled, **Star Wars** author, halfway through. It follows great Jedi of two periods of great war. The quality fluctuates, but the Sith Empire stories are the low point of the series. The current arc, **Redemption**, which takes place a decade after **The Sith War**, is quite good and has excellent art.

X-wing begins shortly after **Return of the Jedi** and serves as a prelude to the book series of the same name. Both are written by Michael A. Stackpole and focus on Wedge Antilles (the sole fighter involved in the three major battles in the movies to survive; he shot at the Death Star core along with Lando at the end of **Return of the Jedi**) and his X-wing group, Rogue Squadron. It began with **The Rebel Opposition**, but after its first few arcs, its popularity led it to become one of Dark Horse's

few monthly titles. The series is very good; I especially like the fact that almost none of the major characters from the movies ever show up, allowing for full freedom of development of the characters.

There are a number of other **Star Wars** titles currently being worked on by Dark Horse, like Kevin J. Anderson's **Jedi Academy: Leviathan**, where Luke Skywalker's students fight a great evil; **By the Emperor's Hand**, the story of Mara Jade, the Emperor's best covert operative; **Star Wars Manga**, a translated Japanese telling of the movies; and a title simply called **Star Wars**. These comics help expand the universe first created by George Lucas more than twenty years ago. Dark Horse has earned the right to its license of the greatest movie in the history of film.

Feel free to e-mail me about video games, comics, or **Star Wars** at diomedes@mindspring.com.

- Frank Lopez

One Term Later: Semesters Take Its Toll

By: Jarmon Gray

The semester conversion hit Southern Polytechnic students hard like a Holyfield hook. I asked students how they felt about the switch from quarters, and heard similar things repeated. "I hate semesters. They seem so long and drawn out", said one student. This was the concensus of most of the people interviewed. After interviewing the students, many of them had the same complaints. One main complaint was how professors were going about giving tests. Most professors are still giving three tests. This was cool when there were fewer weeks in a term, but now tests may cover up to four weeks of material. That's to much material for most people to remember. I think professors should give at the very least four tests in all classes on semesters. When I asked some professors about this, some said they were going to change this next semester. And some may be too set in their ways to change.

Another common complaint was the length of time difference of semesters and quarters. It feels like semesters last forever in comparison to a quarter. This difference in time has also caused problems for some students. In the past if a student were unable to take a class for some reason, they would take that class two or so months later in the next quarter. On semesters, however, students have to wait almost a half a year to take a class missed. I feel this problem can be solved by departments asking students what they plan on taking at the beginning of the semester so

classes can be made to accommodate everyone in the next term.

There is one positive I have found about semesters. I found that I have more free time to do other things besides focusing all my time on school. I actually get time to go to the gym every now and then. Also, classes don't meet everyday now as in the past.

Overall, I found that the semester conversion has been a big change for everyone. I personally was on semesters in high school, but the change was still a shock to my system. And after considering all the evidence, the verdict on semesters is Not to

Be. There is only one problem. We can't go back to the past, or do anything to change what has been done. So my advice for everyone is to persevere, adjust and adapt. If you throw these three ingredients in to your mix, I can almost guarantee that the final result will be a beautiful product.



"All Circuits Are Busy..."

By: LeVar Gilford

"All circuits are busy, can you please hang-up and try your call again later." How many of you are familiar with this statement? If you ever lived in the dorms or have ever tried to call anyone in the dorms, then this statement is all too common to you.

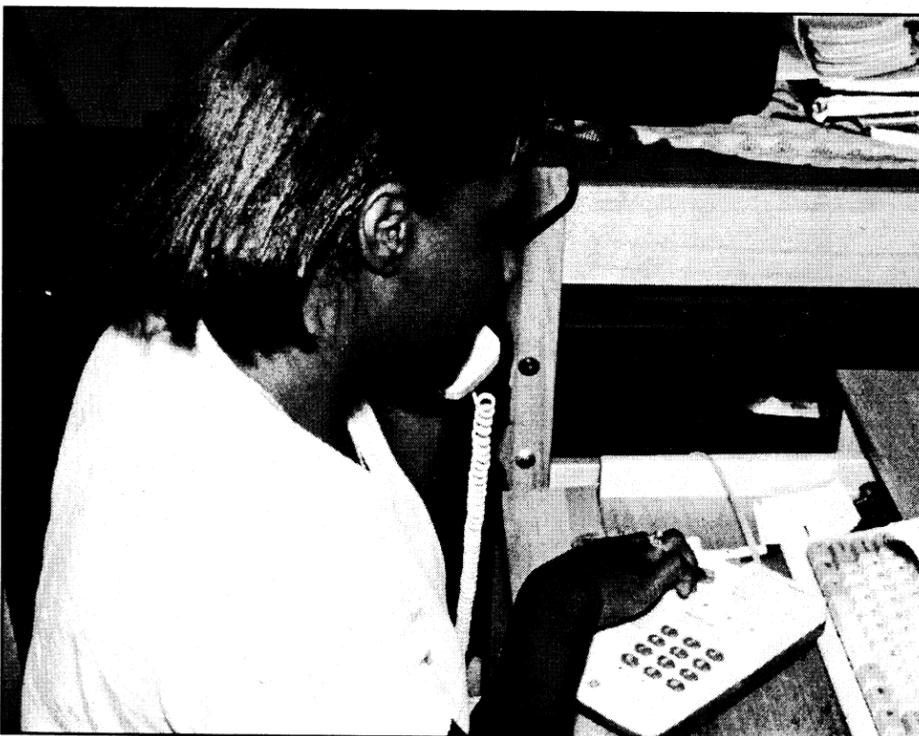
Around the hours of 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., a call outside of the dormitories is about as likely as the NBA having a season this year. Not very likely at all! Without trying sometimes in excess of twenty times, you cannot reach your family, your friends, or more importantly, the local pizza place. A situation that is even more grim than that is the fact that a resident cannot even call Campus Safety during those "peak hours". An injured person would quite literally have to walk down and over to Campus Safety for medical assistance, due to the inability

to dial 9-1-1 emergency from their rooms.

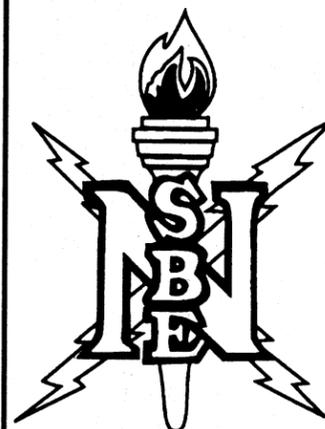
This problem has existed for a very long time and the reasons for it not being dealt with are unknown. Not only is the phone system an inconvenience but it is also a safety risk. Someone needs to take

the initiative to take a look at the phone system in the dormitories and come up with a new way of doing things. Whether it is the institution of some form of call waiting, a new service-provider, or a total revamping of the system itself, students deserve the

convenience of a good telephone network. As a school that deals with advances in technology, we need to scrap the archaic phone systems!



NSBE On The Move



Continued From Page 1

and just enjoying the day's end to business as usual.

The Keynote Speaker for the Banquet was Dr. Julian Earls, Deputy Director for Operations, NASA Lewis Research Center. Mr. Earls was a scholar who has earned the Bachelor's Degree, with distinction in Physics from Norfolk State University, a Doctorate Degree in Radiation Physics from the University of Michigan, and others too numerous to mention. He is an author who has numerous publications, both technical and educational. Dr. Earls is a humanitarian who has been honored for his community service. He is an athlete and an orator who has been honored as a keynote speaker at the Government House of my home, the U.S. Virgin Islands. And, of course, Dr. Earls is a husband and a father.

This speaker had the knowledge, the verve, and the wit to win over the whole crowd at the banquet, and he did indeed win us that night. Dr. Earls had numerous stories to tell us that would later inspire us to imitate him in terms of his strength of mind and body, his cunning ways, and his comical sense of humor.

Overall, the membership enjoyed the conference very much and are looking forward to further competitions and events at the Spring Regional Conferene next year along with the National Convention in Kansas City, MO with over 10,000 other members.

The Good, The Bad, and The UGLY of SPSU!!

The Good:

Well, unfortunately there are not that many "Goods" on campus. However, we have some great teachers that I feel must be recognized. First, we have Professor Patterson in the Physics Department. I think that he is a great teacher and that he should be rewarded for all of his efforts in the classroom. Then, we have Professor Morrison who I believe is the best Computer Science teacher that I have come across so far. She is very helpful and considerate when it comes to tests and programs. The feature that shines the most about both teachers is that they are more than willing to help you understand the material. So, I give both teachers five stars (*****) for being the "Good" teachers of Southern Polytechnic State University.

The Bad:

Pizza, hamburger, cheeseburger, cold meat sandwiches, ONE special per day on the hot bar. "The variety of food they have sucks", "I wish the food court had more to offer," are feelings often expressed by many people who eat in the student center or who have stopped eating there. There is an entire section in the rear of the cafeteria that has all the available equipment to provide a more diverse variety of food, but it is just collecting dust. Aramark claims that they are not making enough money in order to expand the cafeteria menu, but they fail to realize that in order to make money, it first has to be invested. If you give people what they want, they will gladly pay for it. But for now, bring a bottle of Pepto-Bismol or some antacids because the Food Court is not planning to change.

The Good:

I would like to take this time to recognize a very personable professor in the Apparel/Textile Department. That particular individual is Dr. Larry Haddock. Here is a man that never has a negative or unkind word for anyone. He draws no line when it comes to helping a student with a particular issue. It's pure entertainment to be in one of his classes and experience his own unique flavor of teaching. He gets the point of the lesson across while adding his own "dry" sense of humor. He's definitely an example for those professors who feel the need to make their classes excessively difficult. Dr. Haddock is a professor who genuinely cares about his student's well being. In this day and age, Dr. Haddock is one of those professors that come along once every blue moon.

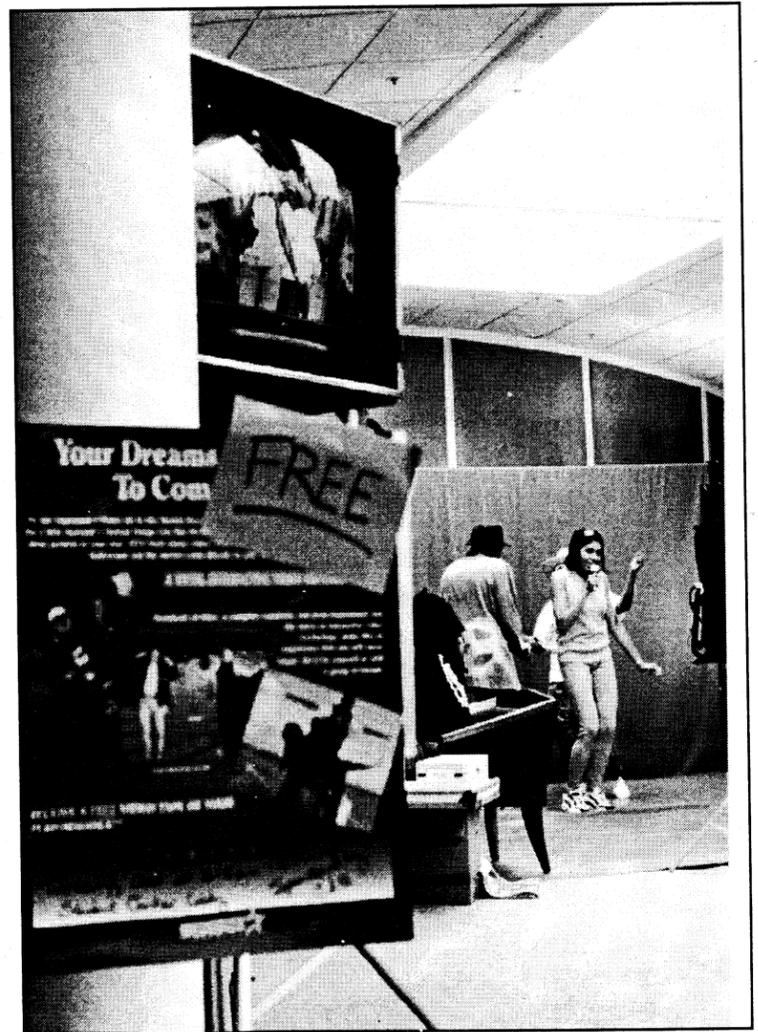
The Ugly:

I am sure that everyone has visited the Financial Aid/Business Office one time or another.

The Ugly:

I have two words for everyone, Business Office. Those two words conjure very ugly images for many of the students attending Southern Polytechnic State University. Is there some type of test that could be administered before one can become an employee in that office? There are some individuals that work in there that may actually know what they're doing, but we, as students, NEVER see those people. I use to believe that the Business Office was there for the convenience of the students. YEAH RIGHT!!!! They are here to do just enough to maintain that level of pay that they are at. Don't even entertain the thought of them doing something extra for you. That's not in their job description. The employees of the Business Office fail to realize that they are dealing with real people who have responsibilities. Everything is done on their time and not any sooner. There seems to be no hope in ever getting this changed. The nastier we get, the uglier they become. Is there ever a chance of catching them on a good day? Who is this Po character?

The Good:



SGA Update

Coming Events:

In an effort to increase participation and awareness of school activities, and the decision-making process, the Student Government Association is seeking your feedback on a number of proposed ventures.

The first SGA Student Survey will be distributed during the first week of Spring Semester. This survey will be seeking student views on a number of different issues including:

- Student-Generated Teacher Evaluations
- Addition of a Technology Fee
- Campus Safety/Parking and Lighting
- Discrimination of any type

Another project that we are very excited about within the Student Government Association is a proposal to

operate a book exchange. This thought came about as a project in Dr. Barnum's Technical Writing class. The objective of this venture is to give students a financial break when it comes to purchasing texts.

In addition to the projects mentioned above, another goal of the SGA is the creation of a forum for organizations. This forum would facilitate dialogue between organizations and a pipeline to administration on problems and feedback on current processes.

The Student Government needs your input. Tell us what you think of our ideas and please feel free to share your own with us. Email us at sga@spsu.edu.

SPSU's New President – A Student Perspective

Since starting on August 1st 1998, Southern Polytechnic State University's President, Dr. Lisa A. Rossbacher has not stopped to rest. She immediately jumped into life here at SPSU. In the recent past, there were many changes in the administrative zone. Some administrators can claim that they have worked at SPSU for over 20 years and gone through three presidents. Others can claim that they have been here one and a half years and gone through the same three presidents. She was obviously not coming in to an ideal situation. But that did not stop her?

When I asked students about their views of the new President, their opinions varied, but were all positive. Students said that they found her approachable and sensitive to the feelings and needs of students. One



answer that I heard repeated was "isn't she wonderful?" Another response is that she can be seen around campus. This may seem trivial to some, but to those of us who have been here for more than two years, there is a marked difference between then and now.

When a school President can

be seen eating in the cafeteria and attending basketball games; students notice. When student input is actively sought and used in the decision making process, students notice and appreciate it. We needed a shake-up here at SPSU, and we got it.

In my opinion, the search committee and Chancellor Portch showed wisdom and insight in choosing her for SPSU because she is just what the doctor prescribed.



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(770)419-7271 Kelleen Williams

(770)499-2576 Michelle Mason

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Collegiate 100

By: Tawonna Marshall

The following Southern Polytechnic students were inducted into the Collegiate 100 on October 13, 1998: Antwon Alsobrook - Junior, MET; Muhammad Hameed - Sophomore, Architecture; Kenwin Hayes - Sophomore, Architecture; Tawonna Marshall - Junior, ATET; James Small - Sophomore, CS.

Dr. Robert Yancy, Dean of the School of Management at SPSU and a member of 100 Black Men of Atlanta Inc., attended the ceremony. Dr.

Yancy stated, "I am very proud of these Southern Polytechnic students and the commitment they have to community involvement."

Collegiate 100 (Atlanta Chapter) is an organization comprised of college students, who share the common vision and intent of 100 Black Men of Atlanta, Inc to improve the life of those who live in economically disadvantaged communities. The purpose of Collegiate 100 is to supplement the mentoring and tutoring programs of 100 Black Men of Atlanta, Inc., to serve as role models to African American youth, and to enhance the opportunity for African American college students to serve the community. There were 182 applicants for Collegiate 100. Only 65 made the founding chapter. These 65 students completed all the requirements for membership into the Collegiate 100 including a minimum GPA requirement, past experience in community service, and attendance at the necessary workshops conducted by the Programs Director.

Spotlight on Sports: Bryan Swain

DON'T LET....

The pretty face and warm friendly smile fool you! Bryan Swain is a man on a mission. His mission is to take the Southern Polytechnic State University basketball team to the top. This 5'11" senior is not only leading the team on the court, but he is excelling academically and leading the team off the court. Mr. Swain has only played one season at the University, but to see him on the court you would think he has played with the team for his entire college career.

He started his college basketball days at Southern Union Community College in the fall of 1994. After playing two years with that team, he decided to journey on to a four year University where he could earn his Management degree.

Last year, the team finished 16-16 and Bryan averaged 7 points per game.

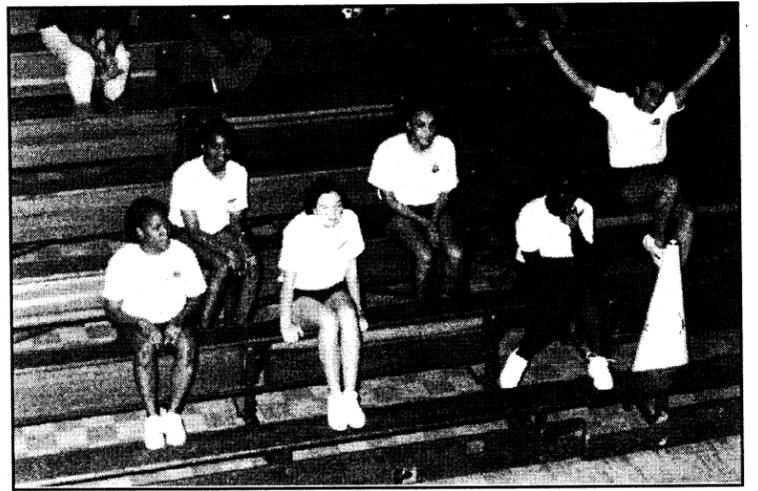
This year he will be one of the leading starters to come back from the 97-98 team. Therefore, his leadership role is vital to the team's success.

"This year's team has versatility, speed, and vigor. We are not only anticipating annihilating the competition, but we expect to have fun in doing so." This year unlike last year Southern Polytechnic State University had the opportunity to play Life University, the NAIA division champions in 1997-1998. Although the outcome was not what the team would have liked, they played a great game and gained a lot of support and respect from the fans.

"The team is well balanced and assistant coach, White works well with the perimeter shooters while Coach Wilson shows the post players how to *put the body on the competition*.

Mr. Swain has big aspirations for himself as well

as seniors David Jones, Haran Wilson, and Eric Blair. He hopes to lead his team into a great year. "The next game is January 7th in the Hornets nest so we would like to cordially invite all of you out to see some basketball action "SPSU style".



SPSU Cheerleaders

By: Michelle Mason

If you have attended any of the Running Hornets' basketball games, you have probably seen them. The cheerleaders include Sharonda Merrell, Melanie Davis, Evita Brundidge, Michelle Mason, Kristy Allen, and Valerie Thomas. These six women, in the green shorts and white T-shirts, exhibit their loyalty to their team by cheering them on to victory. Even though they have not yet received their uniforms, the cheerleaders did not feel right sitting idly by and not cheering for their team. They decided to come up with temporary uniforms and show the basketball team their undying support. The uniforms should soon be in and the cheerleaders will be cheering with a vengeance because other teams will be stung by the S.P.S.U. Running Hornets. Please make some time to come out to the games and cheer along. And trust me, expect something new and different at the next home game.

SPSU Running Hornets 1998-99 Basketball Roster

3	Haran Walker	6'1	190	SR	Guard	Jackson, MS	Mgmt
4	Eric Blair	5'9	170	SR	Guard	Austell, GA	Mgmt
12	Bryan Swain	5'11	180	SR	Guard	Talladega, AL	Mgmt
20	David Jones	6'3	185	SR	Forward	Columbus, GA	Mgmt
22	Octavius Harris	5'8	180	FR	Guard	Stone Mountain, GA	CET
24	Elson Cornett	6'1	175	JR	Guard	Boone, NC	ATET
30	Luke LaPrade	6'2	180	FR	Guard	Cornelia, GA	Undecided
32	Mike Benson	6'1	175	FR	Guard	Atlanta, GA	CET
33	Chauncey Ford	6'3	200	JR	Forward	Huntsville, AL	Mgmt
34	Solomon Harris	6'6	190	SO	Forward	Monroe, GA	ECET
40	Adam Fall	6'5	190	SO	Forward	Dakar, Senegal	ECET
42	Bronson Crawford	6'4	190	FR	Forward	Toccoa, GA	Undecided
44	Deon Spear	6'3	220	SR	Forward	Monroe, GA	Mgmt
50	Quentin Wilson	6'6	200	FR	Forward	Stone Mountain, GA	CET
54	Leo Simmons	6'7	215	JR	Forward	Nassau, Bahamas	CS

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Poetry Point

In Love With...

By: Michelle
Mason

I'm *in love with* you, my whole heart you've got.
You might think I'm just talking, but my soul knows I'm not.
You've brought to me the magic that I love to feel.
And now that I've fallen, I hope you're for real.

My desires and passions for you are so strong,
That I know being in love can't be wrong.
And now that I've reached this point, my love can only grow.
You are my heart and well, I just thought you should know.

?

By: Kelleen D. Williams

My love for you is growing stronger
Time can't withhold this any longer
The passion between us Is an all consuming force
So we can just let our love run it's course
And because our love is Forever growing
The light in my heart is forever glowing
So take this love And cherish it true
For it's faithfully and honestly given to you

Love you always

IF THERE'S ANY...

By: Evita Brundidge

If there's anything I could do for you,
let me do it for you.
If there's anyway I may please you,
let me.
If there's anyway I may prove my love for you,
let me.
If there's any comfort I can give to you in time of need,

then let me.
If there's any pain, hurt or aggravation I give you,
be patient with me and please forgive me.

If there's anytime that my love is not good enough for you,

Let me know.
If there comes a time when you feel that you don't love

me, like me, care for me or cherish the moments we spend,

come to me with love and discuss how you feel.

If there comes a time when you feel you don't need me anymore,

don't crush my heart into small non-replaceable pieces,

but cherish all that we had.

If there's anything I do wrong,

correct me, even if I'm STUBBORN.

If there's anyway that I can be forgiven,

let my wrongs be forgiven.

For my love belongs to you FOREVER
even if that's not how you want it.

And I'm sure that our love for one another Will last forever.

Because...
If there's anyway you can be patient with me,
I know it'll be possible to forgive
as long as you have the loving heart which belongs to me forever,

forever,
forever,
forever.

My First Love

By: Kristie K. Todd

Not knowing how to act, what to say or do,
I found myself falling for you.

Falling for your personality, your physique, and the way you treat me,

It was like love at first sight to me.

The first one to comfort me and share my pain,
Someone who would never leave me out in the rain.

The one who told that everything would be alright,
And also stayed through the night.

You expressed your love for me in so many ways,

That kept me wondering throughout the rest of my days.

You were good to me

right from the very start,
I will always remember it- in my heart.

I thank GOD every night for sending you,
Someone so special, unique, and true.

It's like a gift sent from the heavens above,
The gift of you being my first love.

In my wildest dreams...

By: Michelle Mason

The other night, I couldn't believe my ears,
Nothing could have prepared me for what I thought I'd never hear.

I should have been sitting down when he responded to what I had said,
But when it came out of his mouth, the blood rushed straight to my head.

My legs went limp and my heart pounded like crazy,
Because *in my wildest dreams*, I never thought he'd say he loved me.

My blood pressure rose as I started to think,
As I walked down the

hall, I felt my heart drop and sink.

And he took his place in my soul, heart, and mind,
A great love and friend- could God be so kind?

REASONS

By: Roddrick Vaughn

Why do I feel this way?
Why does my heart rush into panic beating?

Why does my palms sweat?

Why do I feel happy, sad, afraid, anxious, and brave all at one time?

Why do I stutter when I talk?

I don't know and can't understand but,

I have a feeling a strong burning feeling ...

If you would like your poems published, please submit them to the Sting Office!!

Calling All Students for One Student's Opinion On SPSU and You!

The STING disappeared for almost one whole semester, and now it is back. Questions are being raised, rumors are flying like crazy, some people are wondering what happened, and others just do not care. My question is, how could we even allow this situation to develop?

As students of Southern Polytechnic State University, it is our right and our duty to ensure that we have a medium to express our views— positive, negative or indifferent. We also have a duty to protect that medium, should it become imperiled. The attitude that I find very pervasive in our community is just a lack of interest, and denial of accountability. We pay for the services that we receive, for the organizations that function

and the quality of education that we obtain.

This entrusts us with responsibility for those things. Anyone can stand around and complain. Anyone can also criticize the efforts of those who try, but very few people are willing to DO SOMETHING about the problem. Recently, a situation was brought to my attention concerning our Cheerleaders, when I asked them whether they had addresses the problem, their response was negative, yet they continue to complain at every opportunity. DO SOMETHING!

The change from quarters to semesters has hit us very hard. Teachers are adjusting as well as students, though some better than others.

Student Profile

Student: Chad Goehring
Major: Architecture
Standing: Junior



If you spend any time in the Student Center then you have met Chad Goehring, with his winning smile and captivating personality. Well, Chad is leaving his position as Building Manager in the Student Center on December 19th.

He began in this position in March of this year, and since then he says he has had fun working with students and getting the inside scoop on what is happening on campus. In addition to being Building Manager, Chad also works full-time as a CAD Operator at Stephen Fuller Inc.

According to Chad, his experience as Building Manager was "fun and exciting." His experience with responsibility and the people he worked with, made the experience unforgettable. We wish you well, and we hope to see you back at the desk sometime soon!!

Time To Vent

- There's never enough people working in the business office, it's about 1 per every 500 that work in the library
- There's not enough dorm parking: it's 5 parking spaces for over 500 students
- There needs to be more support for the Basketball Team
- Is there anyone on the Basketball Team with a "real" major
- The cheerleaders need actual uniforms
- Business office employees are non-deserving of a pay check

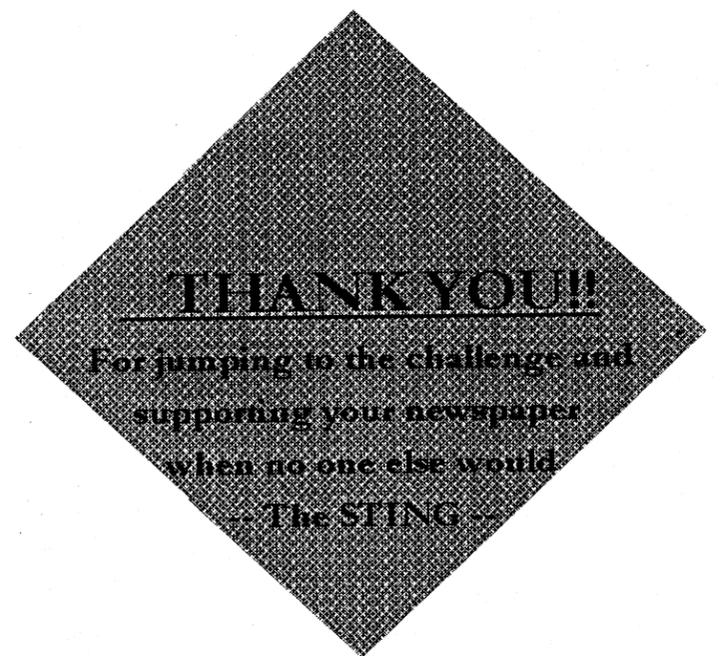
- We all can appreciate the Lights of Life, but damn, the Bells of Death too!
- Why are there six stop signs for a school that has a mile and a half radius
- Why does campus mail go off campus to come back on campus to me
- Business office employees have no customer service skills
- How did Po become so important in the Business Office all of a sudden
- Why are items from the Business Office always "in the mail."
- Did the financial aid office leave with Ms. Hyche
- Why did I have a hold on my records because they forgot to save my information
- Why is the rent so damn high at University Commons
- Are there any other days that the CIT Lab is open
- Why is SPSU so.....dead!

Although The STING Was Absent For Some Time . . .



When asked you stepped up to the challenge, endured, & persevered. For that you must be thanked and recognized.

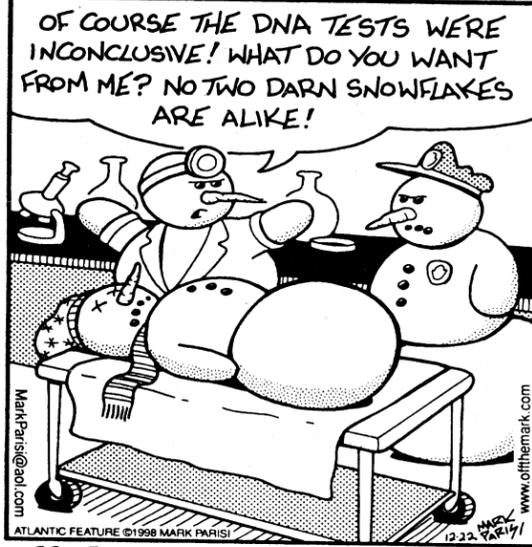
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|------------------|------------------|
| Evita Brundidge | Greg Champion |
| Melissa Cherry | Jeff Combs |
| Derick Davis | David Eskridge |
| Levar Gilford | Jarmon Gray |
| Almez Kerr | Frank Lopez |
| Tawanna Marshall | Michelle Mason |
| Ebony McCants | Anthony Miller |
| Nicole Phillips | Kristie Todd |
| Roddrick Vaughn | Kelleen Williams |



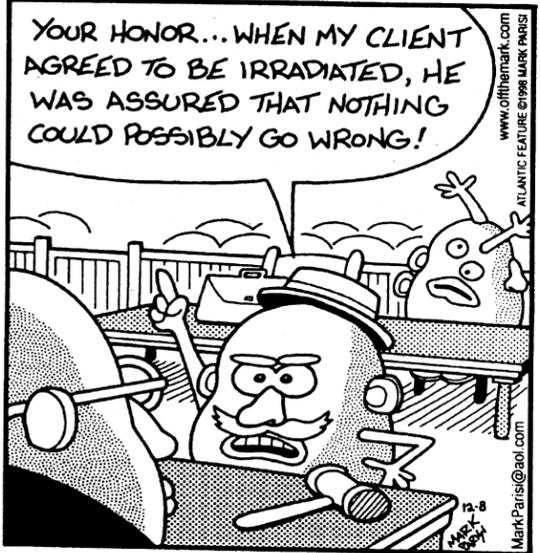
off the mark by Mark Parisi



off the mark by Mark Parisi



off the mark by Mark Parisi



off the mark by Mark Parisi



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Season's Greetings from the staff of THE STING

